UNITED
NATIONS

TD

United Nations
Conference
on Trade and
Development

Distr.
GENERAL

TD/B/EX(16)/1
23 January 1998

Original: ENGLISH

TRADE AND DEVELOPMENT BOARD
Sixteenth executive session
Geneva, 9 February 1998
Item 1 of the provisional agenda

ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA

Provisional agenda and annotations

The provisional agenda for the sixteenth executive session of the Trade and Development Board was approved at the consultations of the President of the Trade and Development Board on 19 January 1998. The secretariat's annotations are intended to furnish essential background information covering the provisional agenda items, together with a brief description of the relevant documentation.

GE.98-50074

I. PROVISIONAL AGENDA

1. Adoption of the agenda

2. Follow-up to the WTO High-level Meeting on Integrated Initiatives for Least Developed Countries' Trade Development (27-28 October 1997)

3. Organization of the process of the mid-term review in accordance with the Midrand Declaration and General Assembly resolution 52/182

4. UNCTAD's publication policy in accordance with the decision of the fifteenth executive session of the Trade and Development Board

5. Institutional, organizational, administrative and related matters:

   (a) Designation of intergovernmental bodies for the purposes of rule 76 of the rules of procedure of the Board;

   (b) Designation of non-governmental organizations for the purposes of rule 77 of the rules of procedure of the Board

6. UNCTAD's Technical Cooperation Plan for 1998-2000

7. Other business:

   - Membership of the Working Party for 1998

8. Report of the Board on its sixteenth executive session

II. ANNOTATIONS TO THE PROVISIONAL AGENDA

Item 1 Adoption of the agenda

The provisional agenda is reproduced in section I above.

Documentation

TD/B/EX(16)/1 Provisional agenda and annotations

Item 2 Follow-up to the WTO High-level Meeting on Integrated Initiatives for Least Developed Countries' Trade Development (27-28 October 1997)

The WTO High-Level Meeting on Integrated Initiatives for Least Developed Countries' Trade Development was held in Geneva from 27 to 28 October 1997. The Meeting decided that its recommendations should be brought to the attention of the relevant intergovernmental bodies of participating institutions for appropriate follow-up and action.

In order to facilitate consideration by the Board of the role of UNCTAD in the follow-up to the recommendations of the Meeting (WT/COMTD/12), a number of open-ended consultations have been held since December 1997 under the Chairmanship of Ambassador Daniel Bernard of France, Chairman of Sessional Committee I of the forty-first session of the Trade and Development Board. At the request of the Chairman, UNCTAD had prepared a number of briefing notes which were made available to the consultations. The outcome of these consultations will be before the Board.

In-session paper

Item 3 Organization of the process of the mid-term review in accordance with the Midrand Declaration and General Assembly resolution 52/182

The Midrand Declaration states: "*to build on the political commitment of member States to the process initiated at this Conference and ensure its implementation, the President of UNCTAD IX should consider convening a special high-level review meeting two years prior to UNCTAD IX*". The General Assembly, in paragraph 2 of resolution 52/182 on international trade and development, welcomed the convening of a special High-Level Mid-term Review Meeting in 1998 which would contribute to the preparations of the tenth session of the Conference to be held in Thailand in the year 2000.

The above two references provide the mandate and guidance for the secretariat and member States on the organization of the process of the mid-term review leading to the High-Level Meeting. The President of the Board was authorized by the monthly consultations with the Bureau and interested delegations to hold informal consultations with a view to reporting to the Board on the process and organization of the mid-term review. The secretariat of UNCTAD was also requested to provide documentation which would identify the relevant paragraphs of the outcome of UNCTAD IX and the status of implementation. Under this item, the President of the Board will be reporting to the executive session on the outcome of his consultations.

In-session paper

Item 4 UNCTAD's publication policy in accordance with the decision of the fifteenth executive session of the Trade and Development Board

For the purpose of scrutinizing UNCTAD's publication policy, the Board will have before it the UNCTAD secretariat's report on documentation and publications (TD/B/EX(15)/5) and a report on the implementation of UNCTAD's publication policy since May 1997. On this occasion, the Board may also wish to decided on the modalities for conducting this exercise in the future.

Documentation

TD/B/EX(15)/5	Report on documentation and publications Report by the UNCTAD secretariat

Item 5 Institutional, organizational, administrative and related matters

(a) Designation of intergovernmental bodies for the purposes of rule 76 of the rules of procedure of the Board

A list of the 105 intergovernmental organizations in status with UNCTAD is contained in document TD/B/IGO/LIST 2. No new applications are foreseen at this session of the Board.

Name change

The Board is informed that the following two intergovernmental organizations in status with UNCTAD have changed their names: the International Conference of African States on Insurance Supervision has changed its name to the Inter-African Conference on Insurance Markets (Conférence Interafricaine des marchés d'assurance); and the Andean Reserve Fund has become the Latin American Reserve Fund.

(b) Designation of non-governmental organizations for the purposes of rule 77 of the rules of procedure of the Board

At present there are 176 non-intergovernmental organizations in status with UNCTAD - 94 in the general category and 82 in the special category. A list of these is contained in TD/B/NGO/LIST/2.

During its sixteenth executive session, the Board will be invited to consider applications from the two non-governmental organizations listed below. In accordance with the provisions of rule 77, the Secretary-General of UNCTAD will consult the Bureau, and the Bureau's recommendations will be submitted to the Board.

Annotations concerning any further applications will be contained in an addendum to the present document.

Documentation

TD/B/EX(16)/R.1	Application by the International Centre for Trade and Sustainable Development (ICTSD)
TD/B/EX(16)/R.2	Application by the International South Group Network (ISGN)

The Board is also informed that the Baltic Exchange, a non-governmental organization in status with the Board in the special category since the first part of the Board's thirty-ninth session, has informed the secretariat that, since UNCTAD's work is no longer of direct relevance to the Exchange, it should be deleted from the list provided for in rule 77 of the rules of procedure of the Board.

Item 6 UNCTAD's Technical Cooperation Plan for 1998-2000

The Trade and Development Board, at its forty-fourth session in October 1997, requested the secretariat "to prepare the rolling-three year technical cooperation plan for 1998-2000 for consideration by the Working Party at the second part of its thirtieth session in December 1997 and thereafter by the Trade and Development Board at its first executive session in 1998, with a view to rationalizing the technical cooperation plan" (decision 444(XLIV).

The Board will have before it a document containing UNCTAD's three-year rolling Plan for Technical Cooperation 1998-2000. The document has two parts: part I presents summary tables, while part II contains the working sheets, by programme areas, on which the summary tables are based.

The Board is invited to take note of the Plan and to offer specific recommendations concerning future plans, including their content and relationship with the Strategy for Technical Cooperation.

Documentation

TD/B/EX(16)/2 UNCTAD's Technical Cooperation Plan for 1998-2000

Item 7 Other business

- Membership of the Working Party for 1998

Candidates for membership of the Working Party are designated by the regional groups. The regional distribution of the 19 members is as follows: Asia, Africa, and Latin America and the Caribbean - nine members; Group B - six members; Group D - three members; and China.

Item 8 Report of the Board on its sixteenth executive session

The report of the Board on its sixteenth executive session will be prepared after the session under the authority of the President. Pending its finalization, the secretariat will circulate a synoptic record of the proceedings of the session.